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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HIROSHI KAJIWARA ET AL.

Application No.: 09/730,389

Filed: December 6, 2000

For: IMAGE PROCESSING
APPARATUS AND METHOD
AND STORAGE MEDIUM

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Examiner: P. Tran

Group Art Unit: 2621

April 22, 2004

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION-OF-SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 24, 2004, Applicants elect to proceed initially with prosecution of the Species of Embodiment 3, readable on Claims 9-12 and 15, and shown in Figs 10-12.

An early and favorable examination of those claims on their merits is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

John J. Diane
Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 29,296

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